

**AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel claims 1-12 without prejudice, subject to applicant's possible later filing of a continuation and/or divisional application; and add new claims 13 to 18 as follows:

Claims 1-12 (cancelled)

13. (new) A plant basket comprising:

- a) an open-topped pot having an outward directed, flanged wall displaced along a sidewall and above a bottom wall and including an alignment key that projects from an interior surface of said sidewall, and further including an aperture that extends through said sidewall above said flanged wall; and
- b) a plate member supported on said flanged wall having a generally flat portion and a water inlet shroud that rises from said flat portion and communicates with a peripheral edge of said plate member, wherein said shroud comprises a successively increasing portion of said plate member that rises above said aperture such that a bottom surface portion of said plate member surrounds said through aperture and defines a channel that communicates with an open space within said pot beneath said plate member, wherein said plate member includes a recess at said peripheral edge that mates with said key and aligns said shroud to said aperture, wherein said plate member includes a hole having a barbed edge that projects into a bore of said hole, and wherein an absorbent wick member is mounted in said bore and secured to said barbed edge to extend generally orthogonal to said plate member, whereby water stored in the bottom of said pot is wicked into soil contained in said pot above said plate member.

14. (new) A plant basket as set forth in claim 13 wherein said wick member comprises a length of rope.

15. (new) A plant basket as set forth in claim 13 wherein said plate member includes a depending support pillar that contacts said bottom wall.

16. (new) A plant basket as set forth in claim 13 wherein said key projects from said flanged wall.

17. (new) A plant basket comprising:

a) an open-topped pot having a support surface displaced along a sidewall and above a bottom wall and including an alignment key that projects from an interior surface of said sidewall, and further including an aperture that extends through said sidewall above said flanged wall; and

b) a plate member supported on said support surface to define a water reservoir between said bottom wall and said plate member and having a generally flat portion and a water inlet shroud that rises from said flat portion and communicates with a peripheral edge of said plate member, wherein said shroud comprises a successively increasing portion of said plate member that rises above said aperture such that a bottom surface portion of said plate member surrounds said through aperture and defines a channel that communicates with said water reservoir, wherein said plate member includes a recess at said peripheral edge that mates with said key and aligns said shroud to said aperture, wherein said plate member includes a hole having a barbed edge that projects into a bore of said hole, and wherein an absorbent wick member is mounted in said bore and secured to said barbed edge to extend generally orthogonal to said plate member, whereby water

stored in said water reservoir is wicked into soil contained in said pot above said plate member.

18. (new) A plant basket comprising:

- a) an open-topped pot having an outward directed, flanged wall displaced along a sidewall and above a bottom wall and including an alignment key that projects from an interior surface of said sidewall, and further including an aperture that extends through said sidewall above said flanged wall; and
- b) a plate member supported on said flanged wall having a generally flat portion and a water inlet shroud that rises from said flat portion and communicates with a peripheral edge of said plate member, wherein said shroud comprises a successively increasing portion of said plate member that rises above said aperture such that a bottom surface portion of said plate member surrounds said through aperture and defines a channel that communicates with an open space within said pot beneath said plate member, wherein said plate member includes a recess at said peripheral edge that mates with said key and aligns said shroud to said aperture, wherein said plate member includes a hole having a bore, and wherein an absorbent wick member is mounted in said bore and secured to said hole to extend generally orthogonal to said plate member, whereby water stored in the bottom of said pot is wicked into soil contained in said pot above said plate member.